I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 1-571-273-8300 on June 12, 2006.

Kim Blum Name (Print)

**Expedited Procedure Requested** Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Daniel J. Jenkins Examiner: In re Application of: RAO et al. 1742 Group Art Unit: Application Number: 10/721,215 Confirmation No.: 5519 November 25, 2003 Filed: Docket No.: 00014DIV (3600-267-02)

NITRIDED VALVE METALS AND PROCESSES FOR MAKING THE SAME

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

June 12, 2006

Sir:

This Request for Reconsideration is in response to the final Office Action dated March 22, 2006, for which the Examiner has set a three-month period for response, thus making the response due on or before June 22, 2006.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.